

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P60146PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/EP 03/ 01742	International filing date (day/month/year) 20/02/2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 05/03/2002
Applicant ATOTECH DEUTSCHLAND GMBH		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT 03/01742

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C25D17/18 C25D21/12 H05K3/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C25D H05K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 197 17 511 A (ATOTECH DEUTSCHLAND GMBH) 29 October 1998 (1998-10-29) column 1, line 5 -column 3, line 18; claims 1-10; figures 1,2 ---	1-22
A	US 6 261 425 B1 (HUANG PIN CHUN ET AL) 17 July 2001 (2001-07-17) claim 1; figures 1,7-7C ---	1-22
A	EP 0 478 521 A (ILVA SPA) 1 April 1992 (1992-04-01) abstract; claim 1; figure 1 ---	1-22
A	US 6 045 874 A (HIMES RICKY A) 4 April 2000 (2000-04-04) column 5, line 23 - line 32 -----	1-22

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 July 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

29. 07. 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT 03/01742

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 19717511	A	29-10-1998	DE 19717511 A1	29-10-1998
US 6261425	B1	17-07-2001	US 6251234 B1	26-06-2001
			US 6241860 B1	05-06-2001
EP 0478521	A	01-04-1992	IT 1242151 B	16-02-1994
			AT 153390 T	15-06-1997
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			US 5614264 A	25-03-1997
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			JP 2002512555 T	23-04-2002
			WO 9831475 A1	23-07-1998
			CA 2218883 A1	27-02-1997
			DE 69610763 D1	30-11-2000
			DE 69610763 T2	31-05-2001
			EP 0820351 A1	28-01-1998
			ES 2152033 T3	16-01-2001
			JP 11510734 T	21-09-1999
			WO 9706895 A1	27-02-1997